

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A liquid crystal display comprising:
  - a first panel having inner and outer surfaces;
  - a second panel facing the first panel and having inner and outer surfaces;
  - a pixel electrode provided on the inner surface of the first panel;
  - 5 a common electrode provided on the inner surface of the second panel; and
  - a liquid crystal layer between the first and the second panels,

wherein voltage value of a first gray representing the darkest state applied between the pixel electrode and the common electrode is within a voltage range giving a contrast ratio to be equal to or higher than about 0.8 with respect to contrast ratio when the voltage applied between the pixel electrode and the common electrode is zero.
- 10 2. The liquid crystal display of claim 1 further comprising a first and second polarizers disposed on respective outer surfaces of the first and the second panels.
- 15 3. The liquid crystal display of claim 2, wherein the liquid crystal layer is vertically aligned in absence of electric field.
- 20 4. The liquid crystal display of claim 3 further comprising domain-defining member for restricting the tilt directions of molecules in the liquid crystal layer, provided in one or both of the first and the second panels.

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A' 5. The liquid crystal display of claim 4, wherein the domain-defining member is openings in the pixel electrode or the common electrode.

6. The liquid crystal display of claim 5, wherein the voltage value of the first gray is equal to or lower than 1.4 V.

7. The liquid crystal display of claim 6, wherein the openings are provided in both the pixel electrode and the common electrode.

8. The liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein regions divided by the openings are classified into four domains depending on the tilt directions of the liquid crystal molecules.

9. A liquid crystal display comprising:  
a first and second panel, each having inner and outer surfaces, with inner surfaces facing each other;

a common electrode disposed on the inner surface of the first panel and a common electrode disposed on the inner surface of the second panel; and

20 a liquid crystal layer having crystal molecules disposed between the first and second panels, wherein a domain defining member is formed in one of the common electrode and the pixel electrode for restricting the tilt directions of the crystal molecules. 117-22

10. The display according to claim 9, wherein the domain defining member includes an upper opening, middle opening and a lower opening arranged laterally along a longitudinal direction, the upper and lower openings being symmetrically spaced with respect to the middle opening.

11. The display according to claim 10, wherein each of the upper and lower openings includes a slant portion which slants toward the middle opening.

12. The display according to claim 10, wherein the domain defining member further includes upper, lower, and middle apertures, the upper and lower apertures having the same shape and are disposed symmetrically about the middle aperture.

13. The display according to claim 12, wherein each of the apertures includes at least one slant portion, the slant portion in the upper and lower apertures slanting in a parallel direction with respect to one of two slants in the middle aperture.

14. The display according to claim 9, wherein the domain defining member includes a plurality of openings arranged laterally along a longitudinal direction, with at least one opening disposed in a direction transverse to the longitudinal direction.